



Speakers



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon is serving his first term as governor of Missouri. Nixon was elected by Missourians as their 55th governor on Nov. 4, 2008 and garnered the highest margin of victory for a non-incumbent governor in 44 years.

Governor Nixon has made a strong public education system one of his chief priorities. As other states were cutting funding for their universities and raising tuition by double digits, the governor reached a historic agreement to freeze tuition rates for the 2009-2010 school year and keep funding for those schools stable. Prior to becoming governor, Jay Nixon was elected to a record four terms as Missouri's attorney general, beginning in 1992. Nixon restored integrity to the office of attorney general by cleaning up corruption, cracking down on crime, and protecting consumers and the environment. Under his leadership, the attorney general's office became one of the most efficient and effective in state government.



Richard Novak is senior vice president for programs and research and executive director of the Richard T. Ingram Center for Public Higher Education Trusteeship and Governance at the Washington, DC-based Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges.

As senior vice president, Novak oversees consulting services; national, invitational and regional programming; and research and policy analysis. While at AGB, Novak has directed special initiatives on board and presidential leadership; led a multi-state study on the effectiveness of public college and university governing boards; facilitated policy discussions with boards and state policy leaders; and directed or co-directed studies in several states. Internationally, he has co-directed a project on governance in Egypt, consulted with the Ireland Higher Education Authority and worked extensively in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.



Linda Luebbering has worked in budget-related positions for the State of Missouri for 20 years. From 2002 to 2004, she was the state budget director for Governor Bob Holden. Prior to returning to Missouri as state budget director for Governor Jay Nixon, Luebbering served as the fiscal management director for the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare.

Luebbering received a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Missouri-Columbia, graduating *summa cum laude* in 1990. In 2002, she was awarded the George A. Bell Service Award by the National Association of State Budget Officers for outstanding service in state budgeting.



Stan Jones is president of Complete College America. Following three decades successfully reforming higher education in Indiana as Commissioner of Higher Education, state legislator and senior advisor to the governor, Jones founded Complete College America in order to build a network of states committed to substantially increasing the number of Americans with a postsecondary credential.

Jones was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives at the age of 24. As a member of both the House Education and State Budget committees, he developed expertise in higher education and higher-education finance. He served 12 years as Indiana commissioner for higher education. As commissioner, he was a primary architect of several landmark education policy initiatives in Indiana.



Myrtle E.B. Dorsey is the chancellor of St. Louis Community College, a multi-campus college system consisting of four campuses offering more than 100 career and transfer academic programs. STLCC serves nearly 90,000 students annually with an operating budget of \$166.3 million. Prior to joining STLCC in June 2011, Dorsey served as chancellor of Baton Rouge Community College for nearly nine years.

Dorsey currently chairs the American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors and serves on its 21st Century Commission on the Future of Community Colleges. Dorsey represented the organization at the first White House Summit on Community Colleges in October 2010. Dorsey earned her doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin and holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Morgan State University.



John Jasinski was appointed president of Northwest Missouri State University in 2009. He returned to Northwest after serving the institution from 1986-2001 as a faculty member, department chair and associate provost. Before being chosen as Northwest's president, Dr. Jasinski worked at Northwood University from 2007-2009 as executive vice president/chief academic and operating officer.

He founded and served as president of Jasinski Consulting Services from 2001-2009 and provided consulting and training on leadership and organizational assessment with a variety of organizations. He is nationally known for his work with the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP, part of the Higher Learning Commission and Northwest's accreditor), having aided in the design of the accrediting method, and for his work with the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Educational Leadership/Higher Education Administration) and master's and bachelor's degrees from Central Michigan University.



Jee Hang Lee is the director of public policy for the Association of Community College Trustees. Lee heads ACCT's government affairs office. Working with other higher education organizations and state associations, Lee advocates on behalf of community college boards and colleges on legislative and regulatory issues such as appropriations, student financial aid, tax policy and higher education policy. Lee has served on the board of trustees of the American Student Association of Community Colleges and the executive committee of the Committee for Education Funding. Lee holds a bachelor's degree from Boston University and a master's degree in political management from the George Washington University.